



PTO/SB/21 (04-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/613,539	
	Filing Date	07/03/03	
	First Named Inventor	JOHN M. CURRAN	
	Art Unit	3679	
	Examiner Name	UNKNOWN	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	10	Attorney Docket Number	1830-06

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<b>Remarks</b> Submitted herewith is response to Formalities letter: (1) Abstract of Disclosure; (2) Check in amount of \$654.00 per demand of 02/18/05 formalities letter re claim over 20 and for extension of time pursuant to 37CFR 1.136(a) in third month; (3) Copy of Formalities Letters dated 11/23/04 and 02/18/05	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Joseph R. Evans, Evanns & Walsh
Signature	
Date	4/25/05

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.	
Typed or printed name	Linda Enriquez
Signature	
Date	04/25/05

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

# COPY



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
10/613,539	07/03/2003	John M. Curran	1830-01

1515  
EVANNS & WALSH  
119 N. SAN VICENTE BOULEVARD  
SUITE 206  
BEVERLY HILLS, CA 902112303



CONFIRMATION NO. 4522  
FORMALITIES LETTER



\*OC000000015224370\*

Date Mailed: 02/18/2005

### NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE REPLY (NONPROVISIONAL)

#### *Filing Date Granted*

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has received your reply on 01/31/2005 to the Notice to File Missing Parts (Notice) mailed 11/23/2004 and it has been entered into the nonprovisional application. The reply, however, does not include the following items required in the Notice.

The period of reply remains as set forth in the Notice. You may, however, obtain EXTENSIONS OF TIME under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a) accompanied by the appropriate fee (37 CFR 1.17(a)).

A complete reply must be timely filed to prevent ABANDONMENT of the above-identified application. Replies should be mailed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450.

The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below.

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- A replacement abstract commencing on a separate sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 1.72(b) and 37 CFR 1.121 is required.

The applicant needs to satisfy supplemental fees problems indicated below.

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- Additional claim fees of \$150 as a small entity, including any required multiple dependent claim fee, are required. Applicant must submit the additional claim fees or cancel the additional claims for which fees are due.

#### **SUMMARY OF FEES DUE:**

Total additional fee(s) required for this application is **\$144** for a Small Entity

- Total additional claim fee(s) for this application is **\$150**

■ \$150 for 9 total claims over 20.  
04/27/2005 ZJUHR1 00000029 10613539

01 FC:2202

150.00 OP

APR 27 2005  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENT & TRADEMARKS  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

(A previous payment of \$6 will be applied to the additional fees indicated above.)

Replies should be mailed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

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*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*



Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
 United States Patent and Trademark Office  
 Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
10/613,539	07/03/2003	John M. Curran	1830-001

1515  
 EVANNS & WALSH  
 119 N. SAN VICENTE BOULEVARD  
 SUITE 206  
 BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90212303



CONFIRMATION NO. 4522

## FORMALITIES LETTER



\*OC000000014440759\*

Date Mailed: 11/23/2004

## NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

*Filing Date Granted***Items Required To Avoid Abandonment:**

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given **TWO MONTHS** from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- The statutory basic filing fee is missing.  
*Applicant must submit \$ 395 to complete the basic filing fee for a small entity.*
- The oath or declaration is missing.  
*A properly signed oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63, identifying the application by the above Application Number and Filing Date, is required.*
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or oath or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(e) of \$65 for a small entity in compliance with 37 CFR 1.27, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.

The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below.

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- An abstract of the technical disclosure not exceeding 150 words in length and commencing on a separate sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 1.72(b) is required. An abstract was not provided for this application.

The following item(s) appear to have been omitted from the application:

- Figure(s) 4F described in the specification.

I. Should applicant contend that the above-noted omitted item(s) was in fact deposited in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with the nonprovisional application papers, a copy of this Notice and a petition (and \$130.00 petition fee (37 CFR 1.17(h))) with evidence of such deposit must be filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the

date of this Notice. The petition fee will be refunded if it is determined that the item(s) was received by the USPTO.

II. Should applicant desire to supply the omitted item(s) and accept the date that such omitted item(s) was filed in the USPTO as the filing date of the above-identified application, a copy of this Notice, the omitted item(s) (with a supplemental oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63 and 1.64 referring to such items), and a petition under 37 CFR 1.182 (with the \$130.00 petition fee (37 CFR 1.17(h)) requesting the later filing date **must** be filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the date of this Notice.

Applicant is advised that generally the filing fee required for an application is the filing fee in effect on the filing date accorded the application and that payment of the requisite basic filing fee on a date later than the filing date of the application requires payment of a surcharge (37 CFR 1.16(e)). To avoid processing delays and payment of a surcharge, applicant should submit any balance due for the requisite filing fee based on the later filing date being requested when submitting the omitted item(s) and the petition (and petition fee) requesting the later filing date.

III. The failure to file a petition (and petition fee) under the above options (I) or (II) within **TWO MONTHS** of the date of this Notice (37 CFR 1.181(f)) will be treated as a constructive acceptance by the applicant of the application as deposited in the USPTO. **THIS TWO MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b).** In the absence of a timely filed petition in reply to this Notice, the application will maintain a filing date as of the date of deposit of the application papers in the USPTO, and original application papers (*i.e.*, the original disclosure of the invention) will include only those application papers present in the USPTO on the date of deposit.

In the event that applicant elects not to take action pursuant to options (I) or (II) above (thereby constructively electing option (III)), amendment of the specification to renumber the pages consecutively and cancel incomplete sentences caused by any omitted page(s), and/or amendment of the specification to cancel all references to any omitted drawing(s), relabel the drawing figures to be numbered consecutively (if necessary), and correct the references in the specification to the drawing figures to correspond with any relabeled drawing figures, is required. A copy of the drawing figures showing the proposed changes in red ink should accompany with any drawing changes. Such amendment and/or correction to the drawing figures, if necessary, should be by way of preliminary amendment submitted prior to the first Office action to avoid delays in the prosecution of the application.

The applicant needs to satisfy supplemental fees problems indicated below.

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- Additional claim fees of **\$81** as a small entity, including any required multiple dependent claim fee, are required. Applicant must submit the additional claim fees or cancel the additional claims for which fees are due.

#### **SUMMARY OF FEES DUE:**

Total additional fee(s) required for this application is **\$541** for a Small Entity

- **\$395** Statutory basic filing fee.
- **\$65** Late oath or declaration Surcharge.
- Total additional claim fee(s) for this application is **\$81**
  - **\$81** for 9 total claims over 20.

Replies should be mailed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria VA 22313-1450

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*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

*Reguert Wolchey*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 1 - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :  
JOHN M. CURRAN

Application No.: 10/613,539

Filing Date: 07/03/03

FOR: IMPROVED SYSTEM AND METHOD  
FOR FACILITATING PIPE AND CONDUIT  
COUPLING

}  
} RESPONSE TO FORMALITIES  
} LETTERS DATED 11/23/04 AND  
} 02/18/05; PETITION FOR  
} EXTENSION OF TIME PURSUANT  
} TO 37 CFR 1.136.(a) FILED  
} CONCURRENTLY HEREWITH,  
} WITH FEE

} EXAMINER: UNKNOWN

} Art Unit: 3679

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Arlington, VA 22313-1450

ATTENTION: MAIL STOP MISSING PARTS

Dear Sir:

*05* certify that this correspondence is being  
deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class  
mail in an envelope addressed to Hon. Commissioner of  
Patents 5231.  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

*4/26/05*  
*Louise J. [Signature]*

In response to the formalities letters mailed herein mailed respectively  
11/23/04 and 02/18/05 (true, complete, and correct copies of which are annexed  
hereto as Attachments 1 and 2) kindly enter the following in the file of this case:  
Abstract of the Disclosure provided on a separate page following.